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S E C R E T ANKARA 001158

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/SE, EB/ESC/ESP AND S/CT
TREASURY FOR GENERAL COUNSEL (DAVID AUFHAUSER) AND
TASK FORCE ON TERRORIST FINANCING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/02/2006

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [EFIN](#) [PTER](#) [CVIS](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: TERRORIST FINANCE: INITIAL TURKISH RESPONSE ON
CHECHENS, HEKMATYAR, ANSAR AL-ISLAM, LASHKAR

REF: A. SECSTATE 46849
[B](#). SECSTATE 44222
[C](#). SECSTATE 39386
[D](#). SECSTATE 26891

(U) Classified by Economic Counselor Scot Marciel for reasons
1.5 (b), (d).

[1](#)1. (S) On February 18 and 21, MFA Department Head for
Intelligence and Research Nihat Ersen and MFA
counter-terrorism officer Firat Sunel responded to our
demarches on four terrorist asset freeze requests (reftels).
Two of the four involved pre-notifications of upcoming UN
designations (Chechen groups and Ansar al-Islam), and we
stressed the need to act quickly on both requests.

[1](#)2. (S) Ersen and Sunel said the names on the four demarches
would be circulated interagency to GOT intelligence agencies,
Treasury, banking regulatory board and Central Bank to
research possible financial links to Turkey. If there were
any assets under these names in Turkey, they would be blocked
informally. However, formal, legal blocking of assets
required a Council of Ministers decree, and GOT practice was
to include names on such decrees only after they have been
designated by the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee. The MFA
was now preparing a draft decree and would include on it
about 20 names recently designated by the UN (including
Laashkar i Jhangvi).

[1](#)3. (U) Sunel updated us on the reaction to the last Council
of Ministers decree, issued in October 2002, which included
the Nasreddin Holding company in Istanbul. This company's
assets had been blocked, and Sunel said he would find out the
dollar amount involved and inform us. The MFA had recently
received a letter from the company's Turkish lawyers
threatening a lawsuit if the assets were not unblocked.
PEARSON